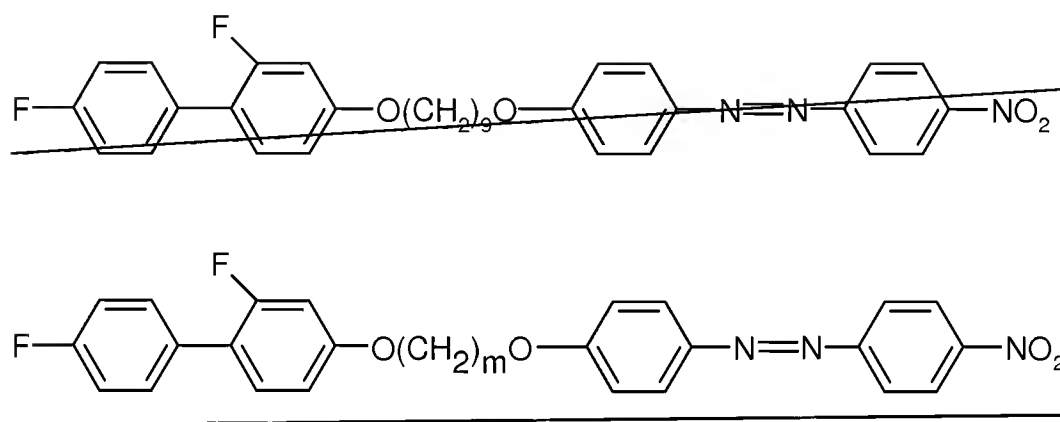


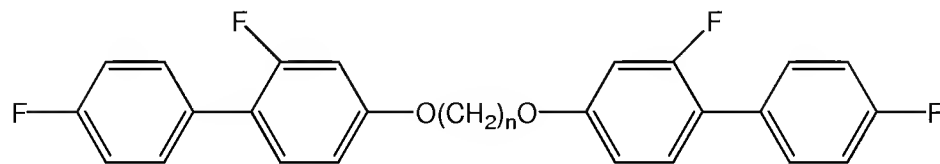
AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace paragraph [0021] with the following paragraph:

[0021] Examples of bimesogenic nematic compounds having a chromophore group include those of the formula



where m is in the range 4 to 15. Such a bimesogenic dye compound can be used as the only bimesogenic nematic compound in the mixture or alternatively can be present together with at least one non-chromophoric bimesogenic nematic compound, for example a compound of the formula



as described above.